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OL. 101 (corrected number) MARCH, 1952 (First Issue Aug. 1, 1851) No. 3

INGING MARKS ONVENTION

Every Congregationalist ought to ve the thrilling experience of at- ading the annual Convention of the nday Schools and Christian Endeav- Societies of our German speaking urches. Envisage, if you can, the eat Free Cross Church of Fresno, largest church in our Conference, th the lower floor filled to capacity the afternoon and evening of Feb- ary 24, a large number of children the afternoon and of young people the evening, with the oldsters sit- g at the sides and back of the urch and a few in the gallery. Sing- g—such singing as most of our urches never hear — old German mns and familiar gospel songs: Whosoever will may come," "True arted, whole hearted," "Sound the ttle cry," "Wonderful words of e," "We're marching to Zion," and e theme song of the convention,

Ve sail along toward the harbor light, over the great life sea,
e breakers roar and the waves dash high; who will our pilot be?
e Christ will our pilot be, a wonderful Guide is He.
we'll sail, sail, sail, Christ will our Pilot be."

An orchestra had been whipped to- ther. Young people from the choirs the five churches filled the choir ft, the children and the young peo- e of each church giving special mbers. "The Holy City" presented a trumpet duet and vocal quartet; men's chorus, a mixed quartet, a dies' quartet, and the primary de- rtment of a whole Sunday School esenting a children's song.

The convention theme was "The hurch's Challenge to Youth" with ur presentations: "To accept rist," "To proclaim Christ," "To e Christ," "To serve Christ," each the ministers of our five German urches participating in the program: ev. Carl F. Brost of Lodi; Rev. Philip eich of Biola; Rev. Edward Hilde- and, supply minister at Sanger; Rev. J. Tiede, interim minister at Fresno, ion; and Rev. Carl J. Maier, pastor the host church. Visitors from road were Rev. Edward Grauman of rtland, pastor-at-large of the Ger- an churches of several states, and ipt. Harley H. Gill, who preached the morning service and gave an dress in the afternoon.

The women of the Cross Church rved the Sunday evening supper, here there was excellent food and e fellowship. As a closing feature, ty young people, crowding the oir loft, coming from all of the urches, sang the inspiring number, ling wide the gates," and then, after e prayer and benediction by the host stor, led in the closing hymn, "God with you till we meet again."

WHICH WAY OUT?

hilosophy says: **Think** your way out.
wardice says: **Drink** your way out.
olitics says: **Spend** your way out.
ience says: **Invent** your way out.
ommerce says: **Work** your way out.
ommunism says: **Lie** your way out.
litarism says: **Blast** your way out.
he Old Testament Prophets said: **Pray** your way out.
sus says: Follow me—**I** am the way out.

—From North Church's "North Star"

CONFERENCE SET-UP STUDIED

In recent weeks a limited study of the organization of the Northern California Congregational Conference has been made by McKinsey and Company, management consultants. This study was undertaken as a service to the Conference on the request of the Board of Directors. The three men of the company responsible for the findings which were presented to the Board at its meeting of February 12 are all members of local churches within the Conference. They were John Neukom, John Louth, and Ian Wishart.

In view of the major changing external circumstances and of the impending internal changes, the report has been valuable in outlining the organizational problems now facing the Conference, and its first section deals with these. The second section of the study concerns recommendations for improvements in organizational setup and extended discussions of the functions of the various Conference officers and employees. The third and final section lists the positions needed to operate the Conference and lists the functions and duties assigned to each.

Major recommendations include: the redefining of the superintendent's tasks, giving more emphasis to his counselling and pastoral rather than administrative functions; the creation of the position of office manager, relieving the superintendent of much administrative detail; the broadening of the function of the director of Plymouth House with responsibility for his work placed under the direction of the director of Christian Education; the consolidation of Conference headquarters—with no specific place being specified. Space does not permit the detailing of other minor but equally important suggestions.

The Conference has been fortunate to have this important contribution by a firm of experts in the management field, so ably represented by fine Congregational laymen who could be expected to have special sympathy and interest. On February 12, the Board voted to adopt in general, for recommendation to the Conference as a whole, the position descriptions in the report and to extend our sincere appreciation to McKinsey and Company for their work and for their continuing interest and cooperation.

Copies of the report will be available from the Conference office for reading by individuals interested.

REPORTS FOR 1951 YEAR BOOK

The Conference office has completed and forwarded to the General Council the summary of the reports of the churches for the Year Book. In almost every way, the reports show substantial gains. In total membership we are very close to 30,000, the exact number being 29,911, of which 11,864 are male members. This is a gain of about 900. The number of absentees has dropped slightly, which is a healthy sign, and stands at 3,510.

During 1951, 2,990 were received into membership, of which 1,326 were on confession of faith. There was a total of 2,313 removals by death, letter, and revision of the roll.

Church school enrollment has made another very encouraging gain of about 1,700. It is now 18,253. The enrollment of youth organizations has gained a full 1,000 and is now 4,284.

The increase in benevolence giving was set forth in the February issue. Home expenses continue to increase each year by almost exactly the amount of the total giving to OCWM which is not too encouraging a fact, although we all recognize that the cost of operating on the home base is bound to climb. The improvements to properties was more than $106,000, and expenditures for new churches and additions was $400,000 in the one year. About $79,000 was paid on building debts. Value of church properties went from $7,568,000 to $8,300,000.

We now have five churches with a membership of more than 1000: Berkeley First, Fresno Free Cross, Oakland First, Sacramento Pioneer, and San Mateo. None of our churches received more than 100 members on confession of faith this last year, but three received between 50 and 99 and thirteen between 29 and 49.

In total number of members received, San Farncisco First received 165; Berkeley First, 156; Fresno First, 146; Hillcrest at Concord, 133; Sacramento Pioneer, 115, and Hayward Eden, 103.

Our churches are served by 69 Congregational pastors, 17 from other denominations, 6 licentiates, and 4 unclassified. We had at the end of the year a total of 161 ministers in standing in our Associations and Conference.

Two new churches were added; namely, Hillcrest and Skyland; and four churches were dropped: Dinuba German, Grass Valley, Hayfork, and Lewiston.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 13—Easter.

April 17—Annual Meeting, Federation of Congregational Women, Broadmoor Church, San Leandro.

May 23-24-25—Annual meeting of the Northern California Congregational Conference, First Church, Oakland.

June 2-3-4—Spring Session, Federation of Congregational Women at Cazadero.

June 17-25 — General Council of Congregational Christian Churches at Claremont.

August 1-6—Missionary Education Movement Conference at Asilomar.

SPRING WORK CAMP

Young people from our churches will again be gathering at Cazadero for their annual Spring Work Camp in the week preceding Easter. This year's camp will run from April 6 to April 11. The camp commission will cover the overhead expenses, with the young people paying $7 for food for the week. During the period, the camp will be prepared for the summer season, and special Holy Week devotions will be held. Registrations for the camp should go to the Christian Education office, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley.

HILLCREST

A beautiful day and a great occasion, dedication Sunday at Hillcrest Church. A new building, commodious, attractive, on a hilltop commanding the entire valley. Automobiles and pedestrians wending their way and filling the fellowship hall, now used as a sanctuary, to capacity. The office of the pastor, Rev. Robert L. Carlson, with new, complete, and attractive furniture. Forty-seven new members received at the morning service, when Supt. Gill was the preacher. Dedication in the afternoon, with national Moderator, Vere V. Loper, as the preacher. Greetings brought by Rev. William E. McCormack, president of the Board of Home Missions; Rev. Donald F. Gaylord, moderator of the Northern California Congregational Conference; and Bruce Lee, chairman of the Building Committee. Expression of thanks by the pastor for many special gifts.

Church School facilities are already completely overtaxed, with as many as 25 children in a room eight by ten feet. The only solution is to erect a second unit as soon as possible. A twenty-four voice choir was a feature of the dedication service, with visiting ministers expressing the wish that they might have such a choir. A followup of the visitation campaign under Rev. Ira D. Black is going forward, which will mean not less than a total of 100 new members.

Laymen In Fresno

A Laymen's School of Churchmanship was held under the auspices of the Laymen's Fellowship of Northern California at the Pilgrim Armenian Church in Fresno on Sunday, March 2. Mr. John H. Finger presided and planned the program. Rev. Philip Murray of Oakland Plymouth Church preached the sermon at the morning service of the Pilgrim Church, the laymen of other churches attending. Following an excellent dinner, Armenian style, a discussion period was held, using as the subject, "The Strategy of Congregationalism in Fresno." Representatives from the five Fresno churches participated under the chairmanship of Dr. Irwin O. Addicott. Mr. Finger gave the closing address. The more than 30 men who attended expressed a keen desire to have more occasions of fellowship and discussion among the men of the churches of that city.

SPECIAL NOTICE

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors on February 12, a committee of five was elected to constitute a Nominating Committee for the selection of a new Superintendent of the Conference. Those elected to the committee on preferential ballot were Mrs. W. B. Buckham, Benton S. Gaskell, Vere V. Loper, Donald F. Gaylord, and Herbert C. Gans. The committee, which will hold its first meeting within the month, will welcome suggestions from all individuals within the Conference.

Benton S. Gaskell,
Convener.

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Rev. Harley H. Gill, Editor

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Rev. Ralph V. Conard
P.O. Box 372, Alameda, Calif.

SUMMER SCHEDULE AT CAZADERO

June 14-21—North and South Central PF	Rev. Harry Martynse P. O. Box 336, Loomis
June 21-28—Redwood, Upper Bay, San Joaquin	Rev. William Welch 815 Sucher Lane, Santa Rosa
June 28-July 5—Westbay Area PF	Rev. Terence Stoker 225 Tilton Avenue, San Mateo
July 5-12—Eastbay Area PF	Mrs. Hewitt Kendall 2234 Derby Street, Berkeley
July 12-19—1st Family Camp	Rev. James P. Senter 1102 M Street, Eureka
July 19-26—1st Junior Camp	Miss Alice Sanderson 4105 Montgomery Avenue, Oakland
July 26-August 2—1st Junior High Camp	Rev. Earnest D. Lidell 116 W. Willow Street, Stockton
August 2-9—2nd Junior High Camp	Rev. Verne Robinson Bridge and Birch Streets, Hayward
August 9-16—2nd Family Camp	Rev. Richard C. Norberg Bridge and Birch Streets, Hayward
August 16-23—2nd Junior Camp	Mrs. Charles Recknagel 225 Tilton Avenue, San Mateo
August 23-September 2—State PF Camp	Rev. Gifford Webster 2545 Tulare Avenue, El Cerrito
September 2-7—3rd Family Camp	Rev. John C. Mickle, Jr. 1802 Fairview Street, Berkeley 3
September 7-14—Student Camp	Rev. Kenneth Kinnear 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley 4

SONG SHOPS

Junior and youth choir leaders, Sunday school superintendents, leaders of worship and church school teachers will have the opportunity to gain new competence in the important field of church music at two "Song Shops" in the Bay Area. The first, to be held at our church in San Mateo on Tuesday, March 25, will have as its leader Mr. Wesley Morgan, choir director of First Church, San Francisco. The second will be held at First Church, Oakland, on Wednesday, March 26, with Mr. Carl Halverson, choir director of the First Unitarian Church, San Francisco, as its leader. Both work-shops will begin at 7:30 p. m. and will include a general introduction to music in the church school, special sessions for each age group, and a laboratory session for directors of junior and youth choirs.

OFFICE SUPPLIES WANTED

Our good friend, Lynda Goodsell Blake, who has so often rendered such splendid service in speaking to our people regarding the Congregational work in Turkey, noticed an item in The Pacific that three of our churches had benefited by the gift of a layman for office equipment. She wonders whether someone would not like to do something of the same for the girls' school in Izmir. When she returns to Turkey, she would like to take with her from Boston two vertical files, one to match the present furniture in the library, of the sort that will handle art pictures. These could be gotten in and shipped from Boston. If anyone would care to get in touch with Mrs. Blake, her address is 289 Woodward Street, Waban 68, Massachusetts.

ENGAGEMENT

Announcement has been made in Fresno of the forthcoming marriage of Miss Louise Wrisley and Mr. Duane Waln, Jr. Miss Wrisley is director of Christian Education for First Congregational Church. She is a graduate of Hartford. Mr. Waln is a senior student at Pacific School of Religion, and has been in charge of youth work at the Pilgrim Armenian Church of Fresno. Both have done excellent work in their churches and are greatly beloved. Following their marriage they hope to undertake a pastorate, perhaps in the northwest. Mr. Waln's parents are missionaries of our American Board in Africa.

REV. JOHN A. MILLIGAN

Rev. John A. Milligan, well known in our Conference and particularly among the churches of the San Joaquin Valley, passed away on February 16, 1952. He was born August 26, 1860, at Bainbridge in the north of Ireland, but at an early age was taken to Scotland where he grew up. Three years of training for the ministry were received at Harley College in London. In 1883 he came to the United States and was ordained for missionary work at Buena Vista, Colorado.

He spent ten years serving Nebraska churches and then came to the Ojai Valley in California in 1892 and then to Porterville in 1896, where he served as pastor for ten years. He had an Oakland church for less than a year and then returned to Porterville, where he has since made his home. For 16 years he was manager of the Citrus Association and has always been prominent in community activities. He was president of the Rotary Club at 85, and for 31 years chaplain of the Masonic order.

His first wife, who came from England, died in 1889, leaving him with two daughters and a son, the latter passing on in 1944, but the daughters, Mrs. J. Frank Wright and Mrs. Charles E. Bighan, have been for many years and are today very active in the Porterville Church. His second wife, whom he married in 1891, died in 1939. He wrote the history of the Porterville Church for the 50th anniversary and just a few months ago bruoght it up to date for the 60th anniversary.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. W. L. Goldsmith, his pastor, on February 19, with burial in the Porterville cemetery. He was a man of rare humor, comradely, utterly devoted to his church, and with keen and discerning judgment. For many years, by all odds, he was the leading citizen of the area.

REV. WILLARD B. THORP

As copy for this issue goes to press, word comes of the passing of Rev. Willard B. Thorp on Sunday, March 2. Pacific will have something of an account of his life in the next issue.

SUNRISE ON MT, DAVIDSON

The Sunrise Easter Service on top of Mt. Davidson in San Francisco will begin at 5:38 a. m. The preacher will be Rev. E. C. Farnham, executive director of the San Francisco-Oakland Council of Churches. Music will be by the Treasure Island Chapel Choir.

Get Out The Vote

The Social Action Committee is urging our churches to give attention to their responsibilities as citizens. The last day for registration for the June primary will be April 10. Churches are asked to appoint someone to take their list of members and check with the Register of Voters list and then contact their people who are not registered. Some of our churches have had one or two of their members deputized to register members at public meetings. Local social action committees might well acquaint the members of their churches with the issues that are up for vote and by report of the attitude taken by various candidates. The committee also might serve by getting people out to vote on Election Day.

RETIREMENTS

Our national Missions Council is seeing some serious changes in personnel. During the past year Mrs. E. E. McClintock retired, and during the coming year three persons will be stepping out on account of automatic retirement: Helen Frances Smith, who has looked after the quotas; Dr. Albert D. Stauffacher, minister and general secretary; and Mrs. W. H. Medlicott, assistant secretary and in charge of the Speakers' Bureau.

BACK FROM FLORIDA

Rev. and Mrs. Charles C. Champlin have just returned from a two months' trip through the south, spending nearly a month in Florida. They report that church attendance at Florida churches is something that would astonish us Californians. They even went as far as Key West but did not see President Truman. They are now back on their ranch in the Valley of the Moon.

MILL VALLEY TO BUILD

Our good friend, Rev. Gordon Foster, who is pastor of the Community Church at Mill Valley, is leading his church in plans for expanding the facilities of the church by at least 100 per cent. The cost of construction, alterations, and furnishings will be about $68,000.

CLOVERDALE — New chairs are in process of being purchased. A lovely pulpit Bible has been presented in memory of the daughter of one of the families. Rev. J. H. Bennett is pastor.

BETTER DO BETTER

It is hoped that the comparative figures below are not indicative of what will happen during the year. Treasurers and loyal members will want to see that remittances are made promptly and that progress is steady toward the reaching of the goals.

	Appt. Jan. 11 to Feb. 28, '51	Apport. Jan. 11 to Feb. 29, '52
Alameda	$ ——	914
Angels Camp	——	150
Antioch	——	2998
Auburn	——	600
Benicia	20.00	—
Berkeley, First	1,710.11	2,562
North	124.55	—
Northbrae	400.00	400
South	128.35	123
Concord, Hillcrest	88.87	—
Crockett	26.89	—
Elk Grove	77.38	—
Etna	35.07	27
Eureka	131.19	74
Fairfax	22.65	—
Fresno, First	1,133.89	600
Japanese	47.50	50
Guerneville	75.00	81
Hayward	——	200
Lodi, First	418.82	360
Loleta	5.00	2
Martinez	222.70	—
Modesto	——	15
Oakland, First	1,000.00	1,100
Japanese	12.00	—
New Pilgrim	59.86	47
Plymouth	373.02	276
Palo Alto	767.65	400
Paradise	120.00	125
Parlier	——	10
Penngrove	——	9
Pescadero	——	5
Pittsburg	97.91	47
Redwood City	——	355
Rio Vista	——	12
Ripon	24.81	38
Sacramento, Oak Park	——	10
Pioneer	500.00	—
Sierra Arden	150.00	50
San Carlos	230.00	280
San Francisco, First	235.17	—
Park Presidio	65.06	—
St. John's	10.00	—
Sanger	43.04	—
San Jose	171.00	171
San Mateo	300.00	400
San Rafael	——	38
Santa Cruz	227.94	189
Santa Rosa	38.48	29
Sonoma	75.00	50
Soquel	26.54	90
Stockton	156.81	170
Suisun	25.00	—
Sunol	11.90	16
Tulare	220.00	196
Reno, Nevada	93.55	65
Pilgrim Fellowship	774.59	—
Miscellaneous	45.00	50
	$10,522.30	$9,197.3

TULARE—Rededication of the old building as refurbished and the dedication of the new will be held on March 16, the sermon to be preached by Rev. Benjamin Gould, former pastor. Rev. Harold F. Cram, the pastor, reports that many of the people have worked very hard in providing outdoor facilities and putting the entire building in attractive condition.

FAIRFAX—Coffee hours following the Sunday morning services are promoting acquaintanceship. Many new people are attending. A volunteer workday will result in cleaning and painting. There is some talk about making an addition to the building with a storage room below and classrooms above. Rev. James W. Montgomery is pastor.

MARTINEZ — This church was well represented at the dedication of the Hillcrest Church building. In many ways Martinez can be called the "mother" of Hillcrest. Rev. Donald F. Gaylord, pastor, Mr. and Mrs. Shelley of Martinez and others really set in motion the studies and plans which resulted in the new church.

PITTSBURG — Rev. Elmer W. Benedict is basing his Lenten sermons on the Book of Job under the general caption of "Thoughts for Troubled Minds."

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

OAKLAND, FRUITVALE — This urch by one single act has accomshed two significant things. In call· Rev. Ralph C. Waddell as their stor, they have secured a strong der for their church, and they have ought back to Northern California e of our best beloved ministers. Dr. addell is one of the most effective n we have had in this Conference religious education and youth work. is a preacher of no mean ability. has served as pastor of the Hayrd and Petaluma Churches and was istant pastor and director of reious education of the First Church, kland, for many years. He has en in Southern California with the mon Grove Church and as associate First Church, Los Angeles, and dlands. His work begins at Fruite as of March 16. Rev. Ralph nard, pastor-at-large, gave strong dership to the church during the erim between pastors.

SACRAMENTO, OAK PARK— group of members met with Rev. Black, of the Board of Home Misns, and Rev. Ralph V. Conard, v. John C. Mickle, and Superinndent Harley H. Gill, representing e Northern California Conference. he members of the church expressed eir keenest desire to go forward and eir conviction that there is a real ld for that church in Sacramento. ey pledged increased financial supt and devoted service. Negotians are going on to make possible budget which will attract strong dership.

REDWOOD CITY — All church partments are making excellent ogress. The Women's Fellowship red for its many projects and conbuted $1,000 to the new building nd. The architect and building mmittee are meeting regularly. The nten season is being observed by aring several fine speakers. A comittee on evangelism is going to initie a campaign of visitation together th a series of Sunday evening dissions led by the pastor, Rev. Gale . Engle.

ALAMEDA—On a recent Sunday ch church attendant received an velope containing two cards bearing message of invitation to share in e fellowship of the church, to be rried in pocket or handbag and stributed among neighbors or new quaintances. More cards are, of urse, available. Church night dinrs are showing tremendous growth, 30 being in attendance at the last ne. The memorial organ fund is owing. Rev. Francis P. Randall is stor.

MODESTO—The members of this urch, though few in number, reonded most heartily as workers in e visitation campaign. It is too rly to predict, but in all probability e membership will be more than ubled. A new mimeograph has been rchased. Sixty were in attendance the last potluck supper. New tables d to be built. The architect is again work on plans for a second unit. ev. Frank B. Loper reports that evy Sunday for the past two months ew people are coming.

SAN FRANCISCO, ST. JOHN'S -Ten new members were received ter the visitation campaign, and velve more were kept at home by ness. Some additional ones will me on Palm Sunday. Church atndance is showing a steady healthy rowth. Rev. Horst R. Jeschke is astor.

FRESNO, PILGRIM — Our good friend, Mrs. Mary F. Papazian, reminds us that Pacific overlooked an account of the jubilee celebration which this church had on December 6. The Fresno Memorial Auditorium was secured, and dinner was served to something like 600 people at $5 a plate. The hall was beautifully decorated. There were excellent music, a splendid historical paper, greetings by Fresno ministers and Armenian ministers from other places. The address of the evening was given by Superintendent Harley H. Gill. One former minister was introduced and also Mrs. Papazian, who is so greatly beloved. Twenty-six new members were received into the church in January. The work of this church is being carried by Rev. A. B. Hussian, interim minister, and Mr. Duane Waln, Jr., of Pacific School of Religion.

SAN LORENZO—Can you believe it? A planning commission has been appointed to study possible expansion of this great building to meet the pressing demands of the church school and the crowding of traffic lanes between classes. The average attendance at Sunday School is 551, the enrollment 957. What would happen if all of the enrolled children should attend church school on one morning would be difficult to envisage. Rev. Homer A. Schwarz, the pastor, has been active in the development of a possible council of churches in the Hayward area.

SOQUEL—Rev. and Mrs. T. Davis Preston are to have a glorious vacation. After 32 years they are to have a trip to the British Isles, and immediately after Easter they will leave New York on the Queen Elizabeth and will be away two months. Mrs. Preston grew up near Edinburgh and Mr. Preston near Dublin. Both places will be visited and family ties renewed. They will also have an opportunity for visiting familiar places and seeing new sights. The Soquel Church is giving them the vacation, and friends are helping with the expense.

SAN FRANCISCO, CHINESE— The new movie projector is adding much to the variety of programs for Sunday School and young people's meetings. The young people take entire charge of printing and distributing the monthly parish paper. The membership of the church now stands at 398. Miss Pauline Louie, of the Conference office, is superintendent of the Sunday School. Rev. B. Y. Leong is still serving as pastor while his successor, Rev. Joseph Ma, is arranging to get into the country.

CALAVERAS COUNTY—Alterations are being made in the chancel of the Angels Camp Church so as to widen it, and a cupola has been erected over the walk between the church and the social hall. A new furnace is being installed and a carpet being laid. Both churches are busy in preparing for the ordination of their pastor, Mr. W. L. Holladay, which is scheduled for March 14. Midweek services will be held at Angels Camp during Lent.

SAN MATEO — New members were received on Sunday, February 10, 29 of them, among them nine couples. The Men's Club of the church arranged to have dinner at the South Berkeley Community Church in order to hear Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick. Rev. Benton S. Gaskell and Rev. Terence Stoker are pastors.

BERKELEY, FIRST—At the February communion nineteen persons were received into membership. The facilities of this church were taxed to the utmost for the Earl lectures by Harry Emerson Fosdick. The great sanctuary was truly packed with eager listeners, including choir loft and every available space for chairs. Loud speakers were installed in Pilgrim Hall. A thousand people filed past the receiving line at a reception on one evening. Besides the great morning services during Lent, there will be Bible study at 10:00 each Sunday morning, radio addresses in the evening, and Wednesday evening Lenten services. Rev. Vere V. Loper was in attendance at the Executive Committee meeting of the General Council, March 5.

RIPON—Three-fourths of the congregation remain after Sunday morning services for a fellowship hour with refreshments served by different church groups. A new junior high youth fellowship has been started with good attendance. The largest congregation since the coming of the present pastor filled the church on Boy Scout Sunday with 30 Scouts and cubs in uniform. Church attendance is showing splendid gains. Rev. C. W. Kirkpatrick, the minister, writes a column, "Sermon in Miniature," for each issue of the Manteca Bulletin published in a neighboring town.

MIRA VISTA — Twenty-four people signed for church membership during the campaign of personal visitation under the leadership of Rev. Ira D. Black and Rev. Ralph V. Conard. The Sunday schedule now includes two morning services of worship. The City of El Cerrito has helped repair the damage caused to the church lots by storms. A youth choir is in process of formation. Rev. Gifford M. Webster reports that there is a Scout troop now meeting regularly in the building, also a nursery school five mornings of each week.

HAYWARD—On February 3 seventeen new members were received. Even with the splendid and commodious building, it is still necessary to use the old temporary quonset huts and the old church building, remade into a smaller chapel, is in constant service. Rev. Donald F. Gaylord of Martinez was speaker at the installation of officers of Pilgrim Fellowship. Rev. Richard C. Norberg and Rev. Verne A. Robinson are the pastors.

FRESNO, JAPANESE — Serious consideration is being given to the building of either a social hall or a sanctuary. An architect is preparing some studies and sketches. The church has accumulated, already, building funds of close to $4700. The interior of the old barracks building, which is being used, has been made very attractive, and Rev. Norio Ozaki, the pastor, gets his exercise by gardening, at which he is truly an expert.

BERKELEY, CHINESE — A new youth organization has been formed among college students and graduates. Its purpose is promotion of the Christian way of life through spiritual development, Christian fellowship, Christian service, and Christian leadership training. Dr. Hoh Yam-tong is pastor.

STOCKTON — Church attendance in February was 14 per cent higher than in the same month a year ago and 40 per cent higher than the year before that. Rev. Noel J. Breed and Rev. Earnest Lidell are pastors.

FRESNO, FIRST—Five tower windows symbolized in five great seals, dreams of a cooperative world of brotherhood and understanding—the United Nations window, the World Council of Churches window, the Inter-Faith window, the National Council of Churches in the United States window, and the Council of Congregational Churches window. In the main these were given by nonmembers of the church and were dedicated on Brotherhood Sunday. In response to a letter sent to friends of the church and of Rev. John H. Gregg, the pastor, $7,300 has come in toward the purchase of a lot in the new college area and may be held against the day when there will be a constituency for a new church.

SAN FRANCISCO, FIRST — The long needed improvements in the sanctuary are taking place. The choir loft and pulpit platform are being replaced by a chancel, and there will be new floor coverings. In the not distant future a small chapel will be built in. Large congregations are coming on Sundays. On Wednesday evenings during Lent, following dinner with an inspirational speaker, six seminars are held simultaneously: on "Psychology and Life," "The Bible and the Ordinary Reader," "Protestant Convictions," "Great Books," and "Church Music." On Sunday, March 2, twenty-three were received into membership. Rev. William E. McCormack and Rev. Joseph D. Redinger are pastors.

PORTERVILLE — During Lent Rev. Willis L. Goldsmith is giving a series of sermons on the Gospels according to Paul, Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John. He recently gave a series of Old Testament sermons covering a book at a time, meeting the need for a comprehensive understanding of the Bible. Every Wednesday night potluck dinners and services are being held during Lent.

ANTIOCH—The Men's Club, with members of the Methodist men's group, heard Harry Drobish speak on his trip overseas at their February meeting. Rev. Herbert Dimock, pastor, is conducting two weekly classes in preparation for church membership, one for adults and the other for young people. The young people observed March first as "Christ's Workday."

BERKELEY, ARLINGTON—Rev. J. Hood Snavely, pastor, has been out of the pulpit for several weeks due to a throat difficulty. Rev. Ralph Hyslop and Rev. Robert E. Fitch have given valued assistance in the pulpit. Rain has retarded the erection of the new addition to the building. A group of players put on "H. M. S. Pinafore" February 14 and 15.

SUISUN — Rev. Gerald A. Larue tendered his resignation to take effect next summer in order that the church might have adequate time to prepare itself for such a change. The reports for the annual meeting were mimeographed and they revealed a very healthy growth, with financial support far beyond anything the church has experienced for many years.

SUNOL — Twenty-five members were received during the past year, and the goal for benevolences was surpassed. A new addition has been built to the social hall including a well equipped kitchen. Rev. R. B. Whitaker is pastor.

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Mrs. E. B. Kientz, Correspondent

The annual meeting of the Federation of Congregational Women will be held on Thursday, April 17, 1952, at the Broadmoor Community Church, corner of Dutton, Dowling, and Breed Avenues in San Leandro.

Africa, Turkey, Japan, India

There was no meeting of the Federation in February to report in this issue of The Pacific, but as we go to press now, the Women's Rallies are being held in all of the Associations. The presidents are planning the programs, each in her own Association. Our state president, Mrs. W. B. Buckham, is speaking at each rally using as her theme, "Our Own Small Thread," which she is weaving into the pattern of Our Christian World Mission at home and abroad.

The out-of-state guest speaker is Miss Mary W. Hurlbut, American Board missionary to the Ovimbundu in Angola, Portuguese West Africa. This West Central Africa Mission was established in 1880. Since 1927 the United Church of Canada looks after a part of the area, and the American Board, a part. The Dondi station, however, is operated on a union basis, for here are located the highest education institutions, the Currie Institute for Boys and the Means School for Girls, also the Sara Hurd Scott Hospital, a Union Theological School and a Union Press.

Miss Mary Hurlbut went out in 1924 to teach in the Means School for Girls, where she continued until 1940. Since that time she has been the superintendent of the rural district educational work and religious work among women and girls also. Miss Hurlbut has with her slides and native costumes to illustrate her talks to us, telling of "The Ovimbundu's Response to Christianity" and "Missions in Action."

Fine fellowship is one of the highlights of the Women's Rallies, in addition to information and inspiration for all who attend. The last rally, the one for the Bay Association, is being held in conjunction with the regular Federation meeting for March. The day, however, is changed because of a very important meeting with national leaders from the East which had to be set for Thursday. Therefore, the Federation meeting and the rally are being held on Wednesday, March 19, at the First Congregational Church, Oakland. The speaker at the morning session is our own president, Mrs. Buckham, who will bring "Snowflakes from Cleveland." The afternoon speaker is Miss Mary Hurlbut, American Board missionary to the Ovimbundu in Angola, Africa.

Miss Florence C. Malcolm, who was with us at Association meetings a few years ago and to whom we gave money to help her buy a nice red pick-up truck to take back to Africa with her, has written since Christmas. She said, "Dr. Mary Cushman continues her ministry of healing, though she is quite feeble. Most persons in her physical condition would have given up long ago, but she disregards her pains and aches and pushes herself to do the daily round."

After Dr. Cushman's visit to the West Coast a number of years ago, the Pacific Grove Church women who heard her speak and became very much interested in her work raised a thousand dollars to help toward the publication of the Old Testament in the Umbundu dialect. When the money had been raised it was impossible to have it used for the purpose for which it was raised, so they bought a bond. Now, however, Miss Malcolm said in her letter they have converted their bond into cash and are sending it to the British and Foreign Bible Society in London, which is now going ahead with the translation; and before too long the Ovimbundu will have the Old Testament in their own language.

Miss Malcolm said they had a quiet Christmas at Chilesso, as the Walns and most of the children were away. The week she wrote was "their week of prayer with services every day, and it was her turn to preach the next day." Incidentally, Duane Waln, Jr., is now studying at PSR, and your correspondent had the pleasure of having him in her home for overnight entertainment during the PF Mid-winter Conference in Stockton.

Mrs. Lynda Goodsell Blake will be back in the Bay Area this summer before she returns to Turkey. You will remember that she is hoping to take back to the women of our mission there a shower of glass measuring cups and metal measuring spoons. If you wish to have a part in this, bring or send your contribution to the annual meeting in April. If money is contributed, the purchases can be made in the East and not have to be shipped from here.

Miss Frances B. Clapp is another friend who was at our Women's Rallies not too long ago. A letter has come from her since Christmas. She told of the lovely Christmas she and Alice Gwinn had with calls and gifts from friends in Japan, and gift boxes, letters and cards from friends in America. She spoke of their guests to Christmas morning breakfast and of the lovely music and pageant given by the Doshisha High School girls, the best they had ever given. She concluded her letter with these words: "One of our nicest Christmas presents this year, however, has been the very fine words of appreciation of the Doshisha and of its permeating Christian standards throughout Kyoto and the country given by a team of six educators from America who have been working here for some months with the government colleges and universities. They say they are amazed at the student-teacher relationship in the Christian schools, compared with the government schools, mentioning the Doshisha and Kansai Gakuin in this area. One of the Ph.D.'s claims to have come with many reservations in regard to the need and place of Christian education here, but after months in government institutions is completely sold on the value of Christian schools."

From Ahmednagar, India, comes an SOS from Mrs. J. L. Moulton, who was at the Women's Rallies just last year. She told of the Sisal Fibre industry but did not anticipate working with it when she went back. However, upon her return she found the Sisal Fibre industry in their Christian community at Ahmednagar at a low ebb, with no finances to keep it going, and 136 men, women, and children entirely dependent upon it for their livelihood. She began supervising the making of less expensive shopping bags that can be sold nearby. She has sent her SOS directly to the Lodi group and to seven other individuals asking for a $25 order. The Lodi women rose to the occasion and dispatched the $25 at once, and in about two and a half months they will receive articles to be sold.

Mrs. Moulton said, "We have succeeded in getting the Government to let us have the fibre. We have their agreement that the industry must not close. They will help with a grant and also with the marketing. Also they are impressed by the fact that this is the only sisal fibre industry now in India. Markets are reopening in Kashmir and all of India. And the women need the help more than ever! . . . But we need money immediately to help us through the next two or three months. So I am writing to you friends of mine and of India to ask your help." If other groups would like to help in this emergency, a personal check may be sent in advance by airmail to Mrs. J. L. Moulton, American Mission, Ahmednagar, India.

MRS. SARAH I. HARRISON

Mrs. Sarah I. Harrison, widow of Rev. J. K. Harrison who was Superintendent of the California Home Missionary Society from 1893 to 1907, passed away on February 22 at the age of 81. She was a member of the North Congregational Church and funeral services were conducted by Rev. Williston Wirt. She had made her home for many years with her beloved friends, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fowden. She is survived by three children, five grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.

COMMUNISM AND GOD

Rev. Williston Wirt of the North Congregational Church lifted for his parish paper a quotation from the Saturday Evening Post, which we would share with our readers:

". . . Communism is what happens when, in the name of Mind, men free themselves from God. There has never been a society or a nation without God. But history is cluttered with the wreckage of nations that became indifferent to God, and died. The crisis of Communism exists to the degree in which it has failed to free from God the peoples that it rules. Nobody knows this better than the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The crisis of the Western world exists to the degree in which it is indifferent to God. Its crisis exists to the degree to which the Western world actually shares Communism's materialistic vision."

I AM THE BIBLE

I am the Bible.

I am a message to childhood, challenge to youth, and a strength maturity.

I came out of the past.

I have always been alive in th throbbing present.

I was fused into existence in th hot forge of human experience- where hearts are sensitive and whe God can best speak to mankind.

I have through all the centuri challenged men when their souls we absorbed in the murky swamps life's low levels.

I have constantly lifted their ey to the sunlit summits where pray and faith work their magic spell upo the soul.

Across my pages march the spiritu masters of the centuries and in m they still speak.

Through my printed page alon there looks out the wistful face o the One who has completely redeeme the whole life of humanity.

I have lost much of my power i the world because teachers have faile to interpret me right to children an youth.

I move onward to capture the or coming generation on the wings o teachers like you.

I am the Bible.

—Percy R. Hayward

PRAYER BY A LAYMAN

Almighty God, as I sit here by th fire on this lovely Sunday morning surrounded by the Sunday paper, an half listening to an unknown preach er over the radio, it has just struck m that I have lied to Thee and to my self. I said I did not feel up to stan dard this morning, and was certainl not well enough to go to church. Thi was not true. I would have gone t work had it been Monday; I woul have played golf or gone fishing ha it been Wednesday; I would have at tended my service club had it met thi noon; and I would have gone to th picture show had it been a good pic ture. But it is Sunday morning, an Sunday illness (morbus sabbaticus covers a multitude of sins. O God have mercy upon me. I have lied t Thee and myself. I am not ill; I am just lazy and indifferent to Thy cal and claim to Thy day and Thy house Forgive me. Amen. (Laurel Leaves

Put it in your date book: Annua meeting of the Conference, Oakland First Church, Friday, Saturday, an Sunday, May 23, 24, and 25.

Chapel of the Chimes

AT OAKLAND and SANTA ROSA

ABOVE GROUND BURIAL... ***Under Endowed Care***

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Santa Rosa

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